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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

July 18, 2002

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF
(SR-6J)

Mr. Steven D. Smith
Solutia, Inc.
P.O. Box 66760
St. Louis, Missouri 63166-6760

RE: Request for Modification to the Alluvial
Aquifer Sampling Protocol
Sauget Area 2 Site - St. Clair County, Illinois

Dear Mr. Smith:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has reviewed the attached request to modify the Alluvial Aquifer Sampling Protocol and agrees to the modifications. Pursuant to Section 2.2 of the November 24, 2000, Administrative Order on Consent, U.S. EPA approves the requested modifications to the alluvial aquifer sampling protocol contained in the Sauget Area 2 Support Sampling Plan.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the enclosure, please feel free to call me at (312) 886-4592.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mike Ribordy".

Mike Ribordy
Remedial Project Manager
Superfund Division

cc: Sandra Bron, IEPA
Peter Barrett, CH2M HILL

bcc: Record Center ✓

Request for Modification to the Alluvial Aquifer Sampling
Protocol

July 17th, 2002

The SA2SG requests the following clarification:

Table 4 of the Field Sampling Plan (SSP Volume 2A) specifies that field/equipment blanks will be collected at a frequency of 1 per 10, or fraction of 10, samples collected, which is the procedure that has been followed in the field to date. However, Section 3.7 of the Quality Assurance Project Plan (SSP Volume 2B) states the following concerning field blanks:

"The minimum required is one per ten samples or one per sampling day if less than ten samples are collected, unless dedicated sampling equipment is used to collect the sample."

Because all of the alluvial aquifer samples are collected using dedicated, i.e.: disposable, equipment, the requirement to collect equipment blanks is not appropriate. Therefore, applying this rationale, Table 4 of the Field Sampling Plan is hereby modified to clarify that no equipment blanks will be collected for the remaining alluvial aquifer sampling locations as long as disposable equipment is being used. Likewise, for all future sampling efforts where dedicated/disposable sampling equipment is utilized, the rationale presented in the Quality Assurance Project Plan takes precedent over the various tables contained in the Field Sampling Plan.

However, if any external sampling equipment is being used/reused for sample collection, such as, transfer containers, sampling pumps or back up sampling pumps (dedicated pump failure), etc, equipment blanks must be collected to check on decontamination procedures.

Approved: _____

Michael Ribordy

Date: _____

7/18/02